

In Bulletin 248 I showed a photocopy of a card produced in 1939 by J.Sloper & Co. Ltd., to celebrate perforating postage stamps through the last five reigns of the British Monarchy. I also described this card in detail and the distribution of these cards. Previously I had heard rumours that 1d blacks had been perfinned, but until I saw this card, I, like many others had not believed the rumour.

Whilst reading through the older Bulletins in order to produce the Index (included with Bulletin 259) I came across the following piece in Bulletin 173 Pg.4:-

"A recent advertisement in Stamp Collecting offered:-

'A framed plaque commemorating 75 years of perfinning "through five reigns", with mounted examples (12) from 1d Black to KGVI, prepared as "A unique set of perforated stamps from the historic collection of J. Sloper & Co. Ltd.", together with their illuminated brochure, both issued in 1939. £145"

Our then editor added this comment. "With a 1d Black the latter collection must be unique if not spurious. Does anyone know anything about this lot?"

The editor must not have had any replies as later Bulletins give no further mention to this card. Unfortunately neither is there mention of the ultimate selling price of the card on offer. Although I was a member of the Society back in 1978 I had not remembered this bit of information when I heard about the card during my visit to Slopers. It would appear from lack of correspondence last year, from our older (not necessarily elderly!) members that they had forgotten it too.

Now you have a chance to acquire a slightly cannibalised card. The illustration on the next page is of a card which is lot 166 in Auction 6 (1992). As can be seen from comparing it with Bulletin 248 Pg.12, all the writing has been cut away, some of the stamps are different and also I can see two new dies to Edwards:- M.M.F. and R.T.F. Although the explanation is missing, if the purchaser places it by the side of the card in Bulletin 248, it will show the original intention of the plaque.

